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In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicants: Richard N. Dodge, II et al.
Serial No.: 10/022,329
Filed: December 14, 2001
For: HIGH CAPACITY AND HIGH
RATE ABSORBENT COMPOSITE

Docket No.: 16184
Group: 376
Examiner:

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**Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)
Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicants, through and by their attorneys, hereby wish to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the modified PTO 1449 Form.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants in no way admit that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicants recommend that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

Applicants request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicants request that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.

The Examiner's attention is also drawn to copending and coassigned U.S. patent applications Serial Nos. 09/209,044 filed December 9, 1998 and 09/212,797 filed December 16, 1998 (copies attached). Copies of the Information Disclosure Statements and Notice of References Cited by the Examiner for these applications are provided for the convenience of the Examiner. Copies of the documents listed on the Form PTO-1449 from this application are not included as they are presumably available to the Examiner. However, Applicants will provide copies for the Examiner upon request. Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

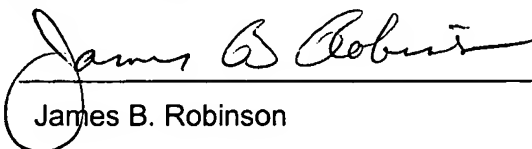
If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

Please charge any prosecutorial fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: (770) 587-7273.

Respectfully submitted,

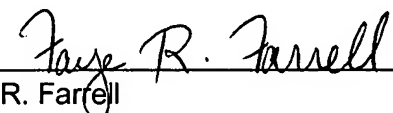
Richard N. Dodge, II et al.

Rv: 
James B. Robinson

Registration No.: 34,912

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I, Faye R. Farrell, hereby certify that on 2/20/02 this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: 
Faye R. Farrell